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Smith, H. A. The law of associations, corporate and unincorporate. (London: Oxford University Press. 1914. 6s.)

Labor and Labor Organizations

Jurisdiction in American Building-Trades Unions. By Nathan-IEL Ruggles Whitney. Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science, Series XXXII, No. 1. (Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1914. Pp. vii, 182.)

The study is divided into six parts, treating of territorial jurisdiction, trade jurisdiction, dual unionism, demarcation disputes, the cost, and the remedy for jurisdictional disputes. Under these several heads much valuable information is brought together from practical sources to illustrate the four kinds of disputes that prevail.

The cost of jurisdictional disputes receives special attention and evidence is furnished to show the reality of this loss. Labor leaders themselves are beginning to realize how costly disputes are. The typical view is expressed in a quotation: "It is untenable and intolerable for an organization to attempt to ride rough shod over and trample under foot the rights and jurisdiction of a trade . . . which is already covered by an existing organization."

The remedies for jurisdictional disputes are treated in the closing section. Conferences and agreements are weak, as they are optional. Arbitration fails because of lack of confidence in arbitrators. Amalgamation of disputing unions would be both simple and effective "if the unions in conflict could only be persuaded to adopt it." This they refuse to do. Exchange of cards and dual membership have not worked well. Remedial measures generally are not effective. As to preventive measures, the conclusions are somewhat more optimistic. Among these are found: (1) the filing of fully listed jurisdiction claims with the Building Trades Department of the A. F. of L., (2) agreement not to participate in sympathetic strikes over these conflicts, (3) development of industrial unionism. In the author's view (pp. 147-148),

It is vain to hope that disputes will disappear within any reasonable time. As long as labor is organized in the present manner and as long as new materials and new methods are being introduced into

industry, the causes and opportunities for conflict will continue. Hope must lie, therefore, largely in the prospect of removing or mitigating the evils of such disputes by effecting a change either in the organization of labor or in the attitude of trade unionists. These changes cannot be brought about suddenly, but must result from a gradual evolution, the progress of which can already be detected in various directions.

Dr. Whitney's investigation forms another timely addition to the list of intensive studies that come from the Johns Hopkins economic seminary. Though the study is limited to building trades, it is so thoroughly representative that it may be taken as a safe guide in the analysis of jurisdictional disputes in the much wider field of trade unionism. Though his conclusions may be somewhat discouraging, they are sound. Jurisdictional disputes, as well as many other evils that are now associated with the activities of these organizations, will in the end be eliminated, largely because of the importance of public opinion as an element of success in their operations. Yet one could hardly agree with any conclusion that might be inferred from the study that mediation and arbitration are not worth trying. They accomplish a degree of good directly that is worth while, and, further, they assist in keeping up agitation that is in the end educational. This latter is a point of no small importance.

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Child Labour in the United Kingdom. By Frederic Keeling. (London: P. S. King and Son. 1914. Pp. xxxii, 326. 7s. 6d.)

The conference of the International Association for Labour Legislation held at Zürich, September, 1912, requested a series of national reports on child labor, to be presented to a special international commission. This volume contains the work of the subcommittee appointed by the British section to draw up the report on child labor in the United Kingdom. The members were Lord Henry Bentinck, M.P., Miss Constance Smith, Miss Mary Phillips, Mr. Frederic Keeling, and Miss S. Sanger, secretary of the British section. The report was drafted by Mr. Keeling, but its scope and method were determined by the committee, and its details were revised in accordance with their criticism. The reports on special localities, which are a significant